

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Applicant: James N. Suddath et al.

Serial No.: 10/052,048

Group Art Unit: 1752

Filing Date: January 17, 2002

Examiner: Hoa Van Le

For: WATER LINE DECONTAMINATION SYSTEM

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the restriction requirement mailed October 6, 2003, the deadline for response thereto being November 6, 2003, Applicant submits the following reply.

The Restriction Requirement

In the Office Action mailed October 6, 2003, the Examiner imposed a restriction requirement and has required Applicant to elect between the following groups of claims for prosecution the merits:

- I. Claims 1-20 directed to a system for selectably delivering sanitized water or steam; and
- II. Claim 21 directed to a method for delivering sanitized water to, and cleaning biofilm from, a fluid delivery line.

Applicant notes for the record that in the Office Action the claims of Group I were identified as being claims 1-20 and the claims of Group II were identified as being claims 17-31. This is a typographical error. The application as filed included 21 claims, of which claims 1-20 are article claims and claim 21 is a method claim. In a telephone conference with

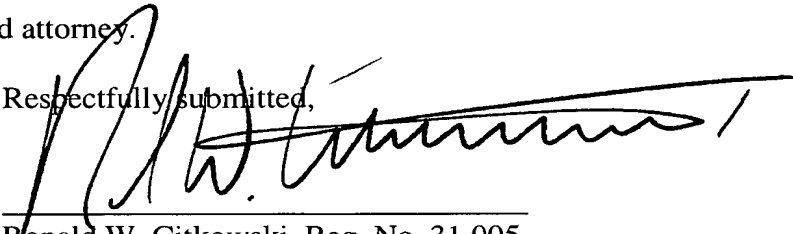
the Examiner on October 14, 2003, the Examiner clarified that Group II should comprise claim 21 only.

Election

Applicant hereby elects the claims of Group I, namely claims 1-20, for prosecution on the merits. This election is made without traverse, and Applicant reserves the right to file one or more divisional applications directed to the non-elected subject matter.

Please cancel claim 21 without prejudice. Any questions or comments the Examiner may have should be directed to the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



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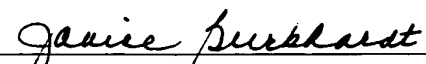
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DATE OF DEPOSIT November 5, 2003

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Janice Burkhardt